



**U.S. Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
Western District of Texas**

**Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MONAHANS WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO MAIL FRAUD, AGGRAVATED IDENTITY THEFT**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that Elizabeth Casey, 54 years-old, of Monahans, Texas, pleaded guilty in federal court in Midland this morning to an Information charging her with mail fraud and aggravated identity theft.

As part of her plea, entered before United States Magistrate Judge L. Stuart Platt, Casey admitted that over a three year period beginning in May 2005, Casey filed false documents with the Ward County Clerk's Office indicating, falsely, that approximately 10 individuals in Ward County had transferred mineral rights in their properties to her. She then utilized the United States Postal Service to send those file-stamped court documents to oil companies as a means of causing the companies to pay her mineral royalties to which she was not entitled. Loss calculations are still ongoing, but initial estimates are that she gained approximately \$20,000 as a result of her scheme.

Because Casey utilized the names and other identifying information of her victims to effectuate her criminal acts, she faces a mandatory minimum sentence of two years in federal prison when she is sentenced in February 2009. The maximum sentence is 20 years, and federal law mandates that she will have to make full restitution to her victims as part of the sentence as well.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Glenn Roque-Jackson prosecuted for the Government.

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